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GP 1616

PATENT ()

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re U.S. Patent Application

Applicant:

Mark HODGKINSON

Serial No.:

08/913,976

Filed:

December 22, 1997

For:

OIL FOR AGRICULTURAL USE

Examiner:

Alton Pryor

Art Unit: 1616

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents / Washington DC 20231 on this

date.

April 10, 2000

Gerald T. Shekleton, Registration No. 27,466

Attorney for Applicant(s)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97, a list of documents is disclosed on the attached Form PTO-1449 that may be material to the examination of this application. Listed Documents Item Nos. A to C are enclosed herewith.

Documents for which the supplied date of publication lists the year of publication without the month were published sufficiently earlier than the effective U.S. filing date and any foreign priority date, so that the particular month of publication is not in issue. Pursuant to §609 of the MPEP, it is understood that the month of publication is not required when the particular month of publication is not in issue.

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should be drawn that the attached list represents a comprehensive

investigation, or that any material disclosed is equivalent to the subject invention. In addition, none of the

documents that have publication dates prior to the priority date of the above application anticipate the

invention in this application.

The cited document(s) disclose numerous specific features. There has been no attempt to

list each and every feature disclosed by each document. The Examiner is requested to review the

document(s) and determine the extent of the materiality of the document disclosures with respect to the

present invention.

The discussion of any art and the citation of any document(s) herein is not to be construed

as an admission that the art or document disclosure is necessarily within the invention field of endeavor,

that the art or document disclosure is necessarily prior in time to a particular date which may be relevant

to the instant patent application, and/or that the art or document disclosure is otherwise necessarily prior

art as defined by the patent law with respect to the instant invention and application.

Also, there is reserved the right to later set forth how the instant invention is distinguished

over the disclosure of any document or other art, including the disclosures of the art and document(s)

recited herein, that may be cited by the Examiner in rejecting a claim in the instant patent application.

The recitation herein of the art and document(s) is not to be construed as an assertion that more pertinent

art could not possibly be in existence.

Respectfully submitted,

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By

Gerald T. Shekleton Registration No. 27,466

Dated: April 10, 2000

Enclosures:

Form PTO-1449, Cited Art

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